CLAIMS

(no amendments)

1.   (canceled)

2.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein the server communicates with the patient through a patient interface that comprises an HTML-encoded web page.

3.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, further comprising a patient database in which the patient-specific data is stored.

4.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, further comprising a clinical trial database, in which the set of trial-specific criteria is stored.

Claims 5-8 (canceled)

9.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein the patient-specific data comprises answers to a questionnaire.

10.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, further configured to send at least a portion of the patient-specific data to the clinical trial.

11.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein the match result data comprises at least one of clinical trial contact and location information, and the server is configured to send the match result data to the patient.

12.   (Previously presented)   The system of claim 19, wherein the patient-specific data comprises at least one of disease of concern, demographic data, drug classes of interest, prior therapies, specific drugs of interest, years since diagnosis, stage of disease, phase of clinical trial, and concomitant diseases.

Claims 13-16 (canceled)

17.   (Previously presented)   A method of recruiting a patient into a clinical trial, the

method comprising:

serving from a server to the patient a questionnaire that includes at least one

clinical trial eligibility question;

receiving at the server from the patient patient-specific data that includes an

answer to the at least one clinical trial eligibility question;

sending the patient-specific data from the server to a security layer;

sending the patient-specific data from the security layer to a matcher;

preventing direct communication between the server and the matcher;

accessing criteria of one or more clinical trials;

determining using the matcher whether the patient-specific data satisfies the

criteria of one or more clinical trials;

inviting the patient to participate in a clinical trial for which the criteria have been

determined to be satisfied, if any; and

if the patient chooses to participate, registering the patient in a database.

18.   (canceled)

19.   (Previously presented) A computer system for recruiting a patient into a clinical

trial, the system comprising components configured as at least:

a server which:

requests patient-specific data from the patient, the patient-specific data

requested including clinical trial eligibility data;

collects the patient-specific data from the patient; and

sends match result data to the patient;

a matcher responsive to the patient's clinical trial eligibility data and to trial-

specific criteria corresponding to the clinical trial to:

determine whether a match exists between the patient and the clinical trial;

and

generate the match result data; and

a security layer which:

prevents direct communication between the server and the matcher;

receives the patient-specific data from the server;

sends the patient's clinical trial eligibility data to the matcher; and

receives the match result data from the matcher and sends it to the server.

20.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein the system comprises at

least two computers.

21.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the security layer runs on

one of the computers, and the matcher runs on another computer.

22.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 3, wherein the security layer is so

configured as to send the patient-specific data to the patient database for storage.

23.   (Previously presented) A method of determining whether a patient is a candidate

for a clinical trial, comprising:

serving a questionnaire from a server to a patient through a patient interface;

receiving at the server patient eligibility data submitted by the patient in response

to the questionnaire;

sending the patient eligibility data from the server to a security layer;

sending the patient eligibility data from the security layer to a matcher;

in the matcher:

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determining whether a match exists between the patient and the clinical

trial by comparing the patient eligibility data to a set of trial criteria

specific for the clinical trial; and

returning match result information to the security layer;

sending to the server the match result information thus returned from the security

layer; and

serving to the patient through the patient interface the match result information

thus sent to the server.

24.　(Previously presented) The method of claim 23, further comprising serving at

least one of clinical trial contact and location information to the patient through

the patient interface.

25.　(Previously presented) The method of claim 23, further comprising serving a

registration questionnaire to the patient through the patient interface after a match

has been determined to exist between the patient and the clinical trial.

26.　(Previously presented) The method of claim 25, further comprising receiving a set

of registration information from the patient.

27.　(Previously presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising adding the

registration information to a patient database.

28.　(Previously presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising sending at

least part of the set of registration information to the clinical trial.

29.　(Previously presented) The method of claim 23, further comprising comparing, in

the matcher, the patient eligibility data to a second set of trial criteria and

determining whether a match continues to exist between the patient and the

clinical trial.

30.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the security layer and the

        matcher run on separate computers.

31.   (Previously presented) A method of determining whether a patient is a candidate

        for a clinical trial, comprising:

        serving a first questionnaire from a server to a patient through a patient interface;

        receiving at the server a first set of patient eligibility data submitted by the patient

                in response to the first questionnaire;

        sending the first set of patient eligibility data from the server to a security layer;

        sending the first set of patient eligibility data from the security layer to a matcher;

        in the matcher:

                determining whether a match exists between the patient and the plurality

                        of clinical trials by comparing the first set of patient eligibility data

                        to a set of generic trial criteria generic to a plurality of clinical

                        trials; and

                returning generic match result information to the security layer;

        if a match exists between the patient and the plurality of clinical trials:

                serving a second questionnaire from the server to the patient through the

                        patient interface;

                receiving at the server a second set of patient eligibility data submitted by

                        the patient in response to the second questionnaire;

                sending the second set of patient eligibility data from the server to the

                        security layer;

                sending the second set of patient eligibility data from the security layer to

                        the matcher;

in the matcher:

determining whether a match exists between the patient and the one clinical trial by comparing the second set of patient eligibility data to a set of specific trial criteria specific to one of the plurality of clinical trials; and

returning specific match result information to the security layer;

if a match exists between the patient and the one clinical trial:

sending information about the one clinical trial from the security layer to the server; and

serving the clinical trial information to the patient through the patient interface.

32.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 22, wherein the security layer sends the patient-specific data to the patient database for storage only after the system determines whether a match exists between the patient and the clinical trial.

33.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein the security layer sends the patient's clinical trial eligibility data, but not other patient-specific data, to the matcher.

34.   (Previously presented) A system comprising:

a computer memory for storing information indicating whether notice of one or more clinical studies associated with a particular disease condition is desired and registration information that indicates at least a geographic location, said disease condition of interest, and contact information, wherein said memory further stores computer instructions for presenting a web page questionnaire to a user; and

means for storing in said memory responses to a questionnaire.

35.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 34, wherein said responses are used to determine whether to provide said user with notice of a clinical study associated with said particular disease condition.

36.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 34, wherein said disease condition of interest is selected from a list provided to said user.

37.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 34, wherein said questionnaire is a pre-examination questionnaire.

38.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 37, wherein said pre-examination questionnaire is a screening questionnaire.

39.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 37, wherein said pre-examination questionnaire is a pre-screening questionnaire.

40.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 34, wherein said questionnaire is a pre-screening questionnaire.

41.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 34, wherein said questionnaire is a screening questionnaire.

42.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 41, wherein said screening questionnaire is protocol specific.

43.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 34, wherein said questionnaire is designed for screening for clinically appropriate persons.

44.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 34, wherein said questionnaire requests information regarding inclusion/exclusion criteria.